

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1483

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2016

Relaxation in Visa Rules

Kambhampati Dr. Hari Babu;Kothapalli Smt. Geetha;Singh Shri Brijbhushan Sharan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to sanction visa relaxation or allow "Visa-Free" entry to business visitors and tourists from certain countries and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the maximum number of days a tourist can stay for trade purposes in the country;
- (c) whether there is any provision for relaxation in rules to make movies in the country;
- (d) the areas in which there are provisions for visa relaxations; and
- (e) whether the cost of visa depends on the number of days a tourist stays in India or there is any criteria for the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) : A proposal has been received from the Department of Commerce for visa waiver/ visa on arrival for business visitors and tourists belonging to Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) countries.

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(b) : Business Visa is normally granted to a foreign national with a stay stipulation. The maximum period of stay allowed on each visit on a Business Visa is 180 days. However, on e-Tourist Visa, a foreigner is permitted to undertake casual business activities and presently, the maximum period for which e-Tourist Visa is granted is 30 days.

(c) : As per extant instructions, foreign nationals coming for shooting of a feature film/ a reality TV show and/ or commercial TV serials can be granted a Business Visa. However, foreign nationals coming for shooting of documentary film/ advertisement film are granted Journalist Visa.

(d) : Visa is granted by the Indian Missions/ Posts abroad in terms of the detailed instructions issued by the government from time to time. Specific dispensation in deserving cases under rare and exceptional cases can be granted only with the prior approval of the Government.

(e) : The visa fee depends on the category of visa and the overall validity of the visa.
